

Turkana

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

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1 Language Information

- Source: Dimmendaal (1982)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/turk1308>
- ISO-identifier: tuv
- Speakers:
- Location: Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda
- Geneology: Nilotic > Eastern Nilotic > Teso-Lotuxo-Maa > Teso-Turkana > Turkanic > Turkana

2 Nominal Morphology

The common nouns have different form for singular and plural. The mass nouns are either inherently singular or plural

3 Verbal Morphology

Subject agreement is marked on the verb by prefixes. There are different form for singular and plural.

4 Conjunction

The copula *ka'* can be used to coordinate clauses. The copula *ta'* conjoins non-verbal clauses. The copula *nà-kà-nenà* means 'but'.

- (1) k-à-pak-ar-ìt a-yɔŋ 'a-kòwù, kà k-à-tò-ryɛb-ì a-kòòkɿ.
t-me-ache-ITIVE-ASP me head and t-me-ache-ASP stomach
'I have a headache and a stomach-ache.' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 411]

- (2) è-à-ra-í ni-konì, tà è-à-ra-í nì-kanj.
3-PAST-be-ASP yours and 3-PAST-be-ASP mine
'It was yours and it was mine.' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 411]
- (3) a-kirò-it nàbo' a-cé' é-a-ra-í' ña-dekè-si-ney, ta' nàbo' a-kí-sak' ñi-ja'
matter again other 3-PAST-be diseases and again need grass
lò-a-jòk-à-k, ka' a-kí-reb' a-kwap' na-kítètì.
good and search land new
'Another matter was diseases, and (again) the need for good grass, and the search for new land.' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 411]
- (4) ña-kirya' ka' é-car' ta' é-taàba
flour and tea and tobacco
'flour and tea and tobacco' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 411]
- (5) ñi-dé' ka' ña-kímak' ta' ñi-kasùkowu ka' ñi-tòña' ló-cé' daàñi
children and old.women and old.men and people other all
'children and old women and old men and all other people' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 411]
- (6) k-à-tò-limw-o-kì a-yòñ' atamàñi tó-bòk' a-kí-pap',
t-me-tell-EPIPATETIC.VOWEL-DAT me that IMP-dig hole
nà-kà-nenì à-tò-bok-it-è a-yòñ' é-k-ñàrènì.
but I-dig-ASP-SG I already
'He told me to dig a hole, but I had already done so.' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 412]
- (7) k-à-ñit' ñesì a-yòñ' a-barò'a, nà-kà-nenì à-tò-mé-ar-it-è a-yòñ
t-me-ask he me letter but I-sent-ITIVE-ASP-SG I
é-k-ñàrènì.
already
'He asked me for the letter, but I had already sent it.' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 412]

5 Disjunction

The copula (*kòri*) marks disjunction.

- (8) e-kone', òri' é-paaé'
friend or close.friend
'a friend or a close friend' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 412]
- (9) è-sàk-i' ñi-ja' , òri' nì-e-ye-i a-kì-por?
3-want-ASP grass or where-3-be-ASP crossing.place
'Is he looking for grass, or a crossing place (in the river)?' [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 412]

- (10) ì-ped-or-ì i-yòŋ a-k-i-boy-i-kìnj òrì‘ mamò?
 you-pierce-ITIVE-ASP you to-stay-EPIPATETIC.VOWEL-DAT or not
 ‘Are you able to sit down, or not?’ [Dimmendaal, 1982, p. 412]

6 Prepositions

1. *kwap* ‘down, underneath’
2. *kidyàma* ‘above’
3. *diyète* ‘near’
4. *tòma* ‘inside’
5. *kìŋa* ‘outside’
6. *à/kà* ‘with’ (instr.)
7. *kà* ‘with’ (comit.)
8. *ŋàrenj* ‘in front of’
9. *kidinj* ‘in the middle of’

References

Dimmendaal, Gerrit J. (1982). *The Turkana Language*. Leiden: PhD Thesis.